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Treasury Department,

BUREAU OF THE MINT.

Washington, D. C., July 28, 1882.

C. H. Brown, Esq.

No. 6, North 3rd St.

Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir:-

I have received your letter of the 26th instant making inquiry as to why your bid for crucibles for the Philadelphia Mint was rejected and in reply I have to say that in submitting the proposals received for supplies. The Superintendent of the Mint in his letter to this office states as follows:

"The only bid for crucibles and covers is the bid of Charles H. Brown, representing Dixon's crucibles. These crucibles were tried for a long time during the administration of J. Ross Snowden, as director of the Mint and subsequently, and the Melter and

Refiner is clearly of the opinion that the crucibles
 furnished for use to this Mint are vastly superior
 in the melting of gold and silver. The disposable
 crucibles are believed to be quite satisfactory for
 the manufacturing of steel but have not proved
 satisfactory in the operations of the Mint. I therefore
 suggest that the bid of Charles W. Brown be
 rejected.

I would add that it is of the first importance
 that the crucibles used by the Mint in melting
 gold and silver should be of the best quality in
 every respect, as otherwise the loss by the use
 of inferior crucibles would be great and in the
 selection of crucibles the judgment of the Melter and
 Refiner is in a great measure acquiesced in, he
 being the officer charged by law with the operations
 of melting gold and silver for manufacture into
 ingots and fine bars.

Very respectfully,

R. A. Preston
 Acting Director.

Copy

Treasury Department,
Bureau of the Mint,
Washington, D.C.,
July 28, 1882

C.W. Brown, Esq.
No. 6 North 5th St.
Philadelphia, Pa.

Sir: -

I have received your letter of the 26th instant making inquiry as to why your bid for crucibles for the Philadelphia Mint was rejected and in reply I have to say that in submitting the proposals received for supplies. The Superintendent of the Mint in his letter to this office states as follows:

“The only bid for crucibles and covers is the bid of Charles W. Brown, representing Dixon’s crucibles. These crucibles were tried for a long time during the administration of J. Ross Snowden, as Director of the Mint and subsequently, and the Melter and Refiner is clearly of the opinion that the crucibles furnished by Taylor to this Mint are vastly superior in the melting of gold and silver. The Dixon crucibles are believed to be quite satisfactory for the manufacturing of steel but have not proved satisfactory in the operations of the Mint. I therefore suggest that the bid of Charles W. Brown be rejected.”

I would add that it is of the first importance that the crucibles used by the Mint in melting gold and silver should be of the best quality in every respect, as otherwise the loss by the use of inferior crucibles the judgement of the melter and Refiner is in a great measure acquiesced in, he being the officer charged by law with the operations of melting gold and silver for manufacture into ingots and fine bars.

Very respectfully,
R.E. Preston
Acting Director.